

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

John Salomone

131 Cedar Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

Karen Futoma
Director

Department of Human Services

Youth-Adult Council

Tim Manke, Chairperson

Monday, September 21, 2015

Conference Rm. 117 (near Town Manager's office)

In attendance: Austin Matteson, Rik Huggard, Tim Cunningham, Josh Shulman, Steven Parker, Alyssa Lacross, Karen Futoma, Paulina Colon, Enzo Zocco

AGENDA

- I.** Call to Order
- II.** Approval of April 13, 2015 minutes
 - A. Minutes approved.
- III.** Membership confirmation and swearing in update
 - A. Austin will try to recruit more students from a list of possible recruits left from a list of students from last year that may be interested in joining YAC.
- IV. Funding: YAC and CASAC Money and Ideas for allocation**
 - A. Money has been deposited in the YAC account over the past few years that is separate from CASAC funds. The YAC funds continue to net money. After \$1200 that is designated to be used for scholarship payments, there will be \$8600 in the YAC account. The CASAC application grant that YAC will most likely receive will be between \$4500-\$4700 once we apply and receive it. The CASAC account needs to be used towards addiction prevention such as alcohol, smoking, gambling, etc.
 - B. Mini-grants to different town or youth organizations-Elementary Schools, Middle Schools, The Transition Academy, library, P&R, town hall information center possibly run by the transition academy students.
 - C. Some kind of an event to benefit the town and create support for Youth Adult Council.

Phone: (860) 665-8590 Fax: (860) 665-8599
humanservices@newingtonct.gov
www.newingtonct.gov

D. Wooden pallet program-church in Hartford does this. In Newington, there could be a possible partnership between youth and senior center to turn the pallets into furniture. This can be done in the workshop in the senior center. The art league and art program at the senior center can get involved as well. Steve Parker will contact the church organization in Hartford that has their own wooden pallet program to see if we can get information on how to possibly begin our own program through YAC.

E. The ROPES Program

1. Has built a new structure at the ROPES site-circular building that is 24 feet in diameter that will be used to strengthen ROPES winter programs.
2. ROPES has also begun a 4th grade program and expanded their program for their older students as well.
3. ROPES would also like to possibly hold a family event on the ROPES course.
4. ROPES would like to also look into a introduction to camping program to get Newington youth exposed to camping.
5. Rail Trail Family Day is another idea as a family day.
6. Some of these proposals could be funded with these YAC funds
7. Rik Huggard is proposing that \$2200 out of the YAC funds to implement programs, especially the 8th grade program.

D. Funds from CASAC and YAC could also be used for the high school Prom Promise Program. Funds could be used to donate to Life Star as part of the Prom Promise Program as well as the IMPACT Program for Prom Promise.

E. Funds to be allocated from CASAC Money:

1. \$200 proposed for Life Star if this is set up.
2. \$500 for IMPACT is an estimate.
3. \$750 for Prom Promise
4. \$250 for library programs
5. \$3000 for ROPES programs
- 6.

IV. Frequency/revision of meeting schedule, RSVPS for attendance at meetings/ no shows causes last minutes meeting cancellations

A. Every other month for meetings-Sept, Nov, Jan, March, May-Motion approved unanimously

V. Hoopla date-Thursday, March 24th is the proposed date-Enzo will check with athletics on this date and get back to YAC.

VI. Reports

A. Youth-school began successfully including sports and clubs

B. SEAN (Special Education Alliance of Newington)-Meet and greet on Oct 8th in the Transition Center. SEAN also had booths at all open houses. Geocaching is another event SEAN is sponsoring.

C. Police-Citizen's Police Academy-citizens learn about the work done in the police, including the SRO. Officer Cunningham will be presenting at this. New police chief, Steven Clark, was hired in July. He is doing very well in his new position.

D. Library-Wrapped up summer program. 150 teams participated in the summer reading program. Library went to the school open houses and there is work being planned to collaborate with the schools, particularly at the high school. Also, the library is starting a Forever Y Book Club geared towards youth book interests. The library is also working on a Smart is Cool Day. There is also a bus trip to NYC through the library planned. Tickets are \$43 per person.

E. School Administration-smooth start to the school year. Teachers working on their yearly goals, fall sports have begun, and the new school store has been a huge success.

F. Town Council-none

G. Board of Education-Chrome books have been deployed in the elementary and middle school grades. This program has been a success. There is a focus on using this new technology tool for a lot of innovative work including great opportunities for students to collaborate.

H. Human Services-Gearing up for the holiday season. Extra help has begun to be brought on for the holiday season. Also working on the heating program but luckily oil prices are lower to help out the community. A new youth worker was hired to replace one who left. Her name is Maria Gonzalez-Soto.

VII. Other Business-none

VIII. Adjournment-8:30